Water Supply Reserve Fund – Grant and Loan Program Water Activity Summary Sheet July 15, 2020 Agenda Item 16(d)

Applicants & Grantee:	Trout Unlimited	
Water Activity Name:	Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Improvement Project	
Water Activity Purpose:	Ag & Env/Study & Implementation	
County:	Gunnison	
Drainage Basin:	Gunnison	
Water Source:	Ohio Creek, Gunnison River	
Amount Requested:	\$19,000 Gunnison Basin Account	
Matching Funds:	 Applicant & 3rd Party Match (cash & in-kind) = \$135,406 7 times the Basin Account request (meets 25% min) 	

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$19,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Improvement Project.

Water Activity Summary: WSRF grant funds, if approved, will assist Trout Unlimited and the various land and irrigation infrastructure owners modernize existing water diversion systems that are antiquated and difficult to operate, including dams that require regular maintenance that contribute to channel erosion during high flow periods. In addition, three of the four diversion structures do not effectively divert water during low flow periods. The new structures (headgates, ditches, diversion dams, sluice gates, and stabilize existing ditch banks) will be constructed to eliminate the need for regular in-channel disturbance and allow access to decreed water rights at a range of flow levels. Structure design will also provide quality aquatic habitat and refuge for trout. These four diversions are used to divert water to over 1000 acres of grass pasture and hay meadow in the Gunnison Basin. A total of 16 individual water right owners will benefit from this project. Each site will include localized riparian and habitat restoration that will total approximately 1,000 feet.

Discussion: This effort will assist the Gunnison Basin Roundtable meet goals 1 & 6 of their Basin Implementation Plan by: protecting existing uses; maintain or, where necessary, improve water quality throughout the Gunnison Basin, in addition to assisting the state's goal to "Support the development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture" as called for in the Colorado Water Plan.

Issues/Additional Needs: The grantee must obtain and submit all outstanding letters of matching commitment prior to entering into a grant contract with the state (if the applicant is unable to obtain matching commitments for those indicated in the application and budget they must provide a documented substitute funding source), otherwise no issues or additional needs have been identified.

Eligibility Requirements: The application meets requirements of all eligibility components: General Eligibility, Entity Eligibility, Water Activity Eligibility, and Eligibility Based on Match Requirements.

Evaluation Criteria: n/a

Funding Sources/Match	Cash	In-kind	Total	<u>Status</u>
Trout Unlimited	\$0	\$6,525	\$6,525	Secured
CWCB Water Plan Grant	\$52,831	\$0	\$52,831	Pending
USFWS Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program	\$14,000	\$0	\$14,000	Secured
Eagle Ridge Ranch HOA	\$6,500	\$	\$6,500	Secured
Slo Down Ranch	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$6,000	Pending
Cranor Inc	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000	Secured
Horse Meadows HOA	\$3,000	\$700	\$3,700	Secured
Gunnison & Tomichi Valley Ditch Association	\$6,275	\$0	\$6,275	Pending
Upper Gunnison WCD	\$33,575	\$0	\$33,575	Secured
Sub-total Matching Funds	\$126,181	\$9,225	\$135,406	
WSRF Gunnison Basin Account	\$19,000	\$0	\$19,000	Secured
Total Project Costs	\$145,181	\$9,225	\$154,406	

CWCB Project Manager: Alex Funk

May 27, 2020

Mr. Craig Godbout Colorado Water Conservation Board 1313 Sherman Street Denver, CO 80203

Re: Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Project, GBRT Grant Application Approval

Dear Mr. Godbout,

I am writing on behalf of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable to advise you that the membership has approved an application for improvements on three diversions in the Upper Gunnison area, one on Ohio Creek and two above the City of Gunnison. All three of these projects involve improving the efficiency and alignment of existing diversions. These projects meet BIP goals of maintaining existing agricultural use, improving agricultural efficiency, and improving aging infrastructure. The GBRT approved \$19,000 in basin funds for these projects. The total original request was for \$44,476.

The GBRT supported \$10,000 for the Marshall #2 project; \$1000 for the Hyzer Ditch project on Ohio Creek; and \$8000 for the Gunnison and Tomichi Valley project.

If we can provide you with any additional information or answer any questions please let us know.

Best Regards,

Kathleen Curry

Kathleen Curry, Chair Gunnison Basin Roundtable 54542 US Highway 50 Gunnison, CO 81230 <u>kathleencurry@montrose.net</u> Cell 970-209-5537 Home 970-641-0699



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant Application

Instructions

All WSRF grant applications shall conform to the current 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines.

To receive funding from the WSRF, a proposed water activity must be approved by a Roundtable(s) **<u>AND</u>** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Roundtable consideration and recommendation is outlined in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. The CWCB meets bimonthly according to the schedule on page 2 of this application.

If you have questions, please contact the current CWCB staff Roundtable liaison:

Arkansas

Ben Wade ben.wade@state.co.us 303-866-3441 x3238 Gunnison | North Platte | South Platte | Yampa/White Craig Godbout craig.godbout@state.co.us 303-866-3441 x3210 Colorado | Metro | Rio Grande | Southwest Megan Holcomb <u>megan.holcomb@state.co.us</u> 303-866-3441 x3222

х	I acknowledge this request was recommended for CWCB approval by the sponsoring roundtable.
х	I acknowledge I have read and understand the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines.
х	I acknowledge the Grantee will be able to contract with CWCB using the Standard Contract. ⁽¹⁾
Appl	ication Documents
х	Exhibit A: Statement of Work ⁽²⁾ (Word – see Template)
х	Exhibit B: Budget & Schedule ⁽²⁾ (Excel Spreadsheet – see Template)
х	Letters of Matching and/or Pending 3 rd Party Commitments ⁽²⁾
х	Map ⁽²⁾
х	Photos/Drawings/Reports
х	Letters of Support
Cont	racting Documents ⁽³⁾
	Detailed/Itemized Budget ⁽³⁾ (Excel Spreadsheet – see Template)
	Certificate of Insurance ⁽⁴⁾ (General, Auto, & Workers' Comp.)
	Certificate of Good Standing ⁽⁴⁾
	W-9 Form ⁽⁴⁾
	Independent Contractor Form ⁽⁴⁾ (If applicant is individual, not company/organization)
	Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Form ⁽⁴⁾

(2) Required with application if applicable.

(3) Additional documentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget maybe required for contracting. Applicants are encouraged to coordinate with the CWCB Project Manager to determine specifics.

(4) Required for contracting. While optional at the time of this application, submission can expedite contracting upon CWCB Board approval.



Schedule			
CWCB Meeting	Application Submittal Dates	Type of Request	
January	December 1	Basin Account; BIP	
March	February 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP	
Мау	April 1	Basin Account; BIP	
July	June 1	Basin Account; BIP	
September	August 1	Basin/Statewide Account; BIP	
November	October 1	Basin Account/BIP	

Desired Timeline		
Desired CWCB Hearing Month:	July	
Desired Notice to Proceed Date:	August 1	

Water Activity Summary		
Name of Applicant	Trout Unlimited	
Name of Water Activity	Upper Gunnison Multipule Diversion Improvement Project	
Approving Roundtable	e(s)	Basin Account Request(s) ⁽¹⁾
Gunnison		\$19,000
Basin Account Request Subtotal		\$ 19,000
Statewide Account Request ⁽¹⁾		\$0
Total WSRF Funds Requested (Basin & Statewide)		\$ 19,000
Total Project Costs		\$154,406
(1) Please indicate the amount recommended for approval by the Roundtable(s)		

(1) Please indicate the amount recommended for approval by the Roundtable(s)



Grantee and Applicant Information			
Name of Grantee(s)	Trout Unlimited		
Mailing Address	1777 North Kent Street, Suite 100 Arlington VA 22209		
FEIN	38-161215		
Grantee's Organization Contact ⁽¹⁾	Danielle Typinski		
Position/Title	Grant Compliance Coordinator		
Email	danielle.typinski@tu.org		
Phone	(703)284-9429		
Grant Management Contact ⁽²⁾	Jesse Kruthaupt		
Position/Title	Upper Gunnison Project Manger		
Email	jesse.kruthaupt@tu.org		
Phone	970-209-0976		
Name of Applicant (if different than grantee)			
Mailing Address			
Position/Title			
Email			
Phone			

(1) Person with signatory authority

(2) Person responsible for creating reimbursement invoices (Invoice for Services) and corresponding with CWCB staff.

Description of Grantee

Provide a brief description of the grantee's organization (100 words or less).

Trout Unlimited (TU), the nation's largest coldwater conservation organization, representing more than 150,000 members and volunteers nationwide, including 10,000 in Colorado, has a program in the Gunnison Basin focused on water use solutions that will benefit agricultural operations as well as protect and improve cold water trout habitat. Jesse Kruthaupt works for Trout Unlimited as the upper Gunnison project manager.



Type of Eligible Entity (check one)

Public (Government): municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies.Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities. Federal agencies are eligible, butonly if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.			
Public (Districts): authorities, Title 32/special districts (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises			
Private Incorporated: mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations			
Private Individuals, Partnerships, and Sole Proprietors: are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.			
Non-governmental organizations: broadly, any organization that is not part of the government			
Covered Entity: as defined in Section 37-60-126 Colorado Revised Statutes			

Type of Water Activity (check one)		
	Study	
х	Implementation	

	Category of Water Activity (check all that apply)		
х	Nonconsumptive (Environmental)		
х	Nonconsumptive (Recreational)		
х	Agricultural		
	Municipal/Industrial		
	Needs Assessment		
	Education & Outreach		
	Other	Explain:	

Location of Water Activity			
Please provide the general county and coordinates of the proposed activity below in decimal degrees . The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit C, a site map if applicable.			
County/Counties	Gunnison		
Latitude	38°35'57.36"N		
Longitude	106°55'25.61"W		



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Water Activity Overview

Please provide a summary of the proposed water activity (200 words or less). Include a description of the activity and what the WSRF funding will be used for specifically (e.g. studies, permitting, construction). Provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized or the water body affected by the activity. Include details such as acres under irrigation, types of crops irrigated, number of residential and commercial taps, length of ditch improvements, length of pipe installed, area of habitat improvements. If this project addresses multiple purposes or spans multiple basins, please explain. The Applicant shall also provide, in Exhibit A, a detailed Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule.

This project is a collaborate effort between Trout Unlimited, Gunnison Angling Society, the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, and several private landowner partners to reconstruct upgrade four separate diversion structures in the Upper Gunnison Basin.

Two of the diversions, Buckey Lehman Ditch and Hyzer Ditch, are located on Ohio Creek, a tributary to the Gunnison River. Two diversions, the Marshall No. 2, and Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Association Ditch are located on the mainstem Gunnison, approximately 6 miles north of the town of Gunnison.

These diversions have similar characteristics. The headgates are antiquated and difficult to operate, the dams require regular maintenance that contribute to channel erosion during high flow periods, and three of the four do not effectively divert water rights during low flow periods. The new structures will be constructed to eliminate the need for regular in-channel disturbance and allow access to decreed water rights at a range of flow levels. Structure design will also provide quality aquatic habitat and refuge for trout.

These four diversions are used to divert water to over 1000 acres of grass pasture and hay meadow in the Gunnison Basin. A total of 16 individual water right owners will benefit from this project. Each site will include localized riparian and habitat restoration that will total approximately 1000 feet.

Me	easurable Re	sults
achieved wi	th WSRF funds	s please provide

To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRF funds please provide any of the following values.					
	New St	New Storage Created (acre-feet)			
	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive				
	Existin	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)			
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)				
\$1,500 labor year	Efficiency Savings (indicate acre-feet/year OR dollars/year)				
1000 irrigated acres	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)				
600ft	Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved				
	Other	Explain:			

any of the following values



Water Activity Justification

Provide a description of how this water activity supports the goals of <u>Colorado's Water Plan</u>, the most recent <u>Statewide Water Supply Initiative</u>, and the respective <u>Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan</u> and <u>Education Action Plan</u>⁽¹⁾. The Applicant is required to reference specific needs, goals, themes, or Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), including citations (e.g. document, chapters, sections, or page numbers).

For applications that include a request for funds from the Statewide Account, the proposed water activity shall be evaluated based upon how well the proposal conforms to Colorado's Water Plan criteria for state support (CWP, Section 9.4, pp. 9-43 to 9-44;) (Also listed pp. 4-5 in <u>2016 WSRF</u> <u>Criteria and Guidelines</u>).

This project will help meet the following 3 of the goals listed in the Gunnison BIP, pp 30-31. Primary Goal:

1. Protect existing uses: The infrastructure and habitat improvements planned will protect and improve environmental, agricultural, and recreational uses in the Gunnison River Basin.

Complementary Goals

6. Maintain or, where necessary, improve water quality throughout the Gunnison Basin: The proposed in diversion improvements will reduce erosion and improve channel stability. Over time, two of the structures on Ohio Creek will help transform the channel to a narrower deeper profile leading to lower water temperatures and providing better refuge for trout.

The Colorado Water Plan Water Plan frequently references collaboration and multiple use projects. In section 6.6, page 6-157, the third goal listed is "Support the development of multipurpose projects and methods that benefit environmental and recreational water needs as well as water needs for communities or agriculture". This project will involve coordination between NGO's, private land owners, and local agencies to address environmental, recreational, and agricultural water needs. It will protect pre-compact agricultural water rights, improve cold water trout habitat, reduce risk of flipping for rafters, and reduce the amount of labor necessary to annually maintain diversions.

In on page 1-6 of the Colorado Water plan sites three core water values. The second value is "Efficient and effective water infrastructure promoting smart land use." This project will upgrade ranch infrastructure and demonstrate how irrigation diversion design can be used to manage healthy riverine ecosystems and productive agriculture

(1) Access Basin Implementation Plans or Education Action Plans from Basin drop down menu.



Matching Requirements: Basin Account Requests

Basin (only) Account grant requests require a 25% match (cash and/or in-kind) from the Applicant or 3rd party and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment** as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines (submitted on the contributing entity's letterhead). Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind)			
CWCB Water Plan Grants (pending)	\$52,831 (cash)			
USFWS Partners For Fish and Wildlife (committed Buckey Lehman and Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Association Ditch)	\$14,000 (cash)			
Eagle Ridge Ranch HOA (committed Buckey Lehman)	\$6,500 (cash)			
Slo Down Ranch (committed)	\$4,000 (cash)			
Slo Down Ranch (committed)	\$2000 (in-kind)			
Cranor Inc (committed for Marshell No 2)	\$6000 cash			
Horse Meadows HOA (commited cash \$3000)	\$3000 (cash)			
Horse Meadows HOA (commited)	\$700 (inkind)			
Gunnsion and Tomichi Valley Assoc. Ditch owners (committed)	\$6275 (cash)			
Trout Unlimited (inkind)	\$6525 (inkind)			
Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy Dirtrict (committed)	\$33,575 (cash)			
Total Match	\$135,406			
If you requested a Waiver to the Basin Account matching requirements, indicate the percentage you wish waived.				

Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests

Statewide Account grant requests require a 50% match as described in the 2016 WSRF Criteria and Guidelines. A minimum of 10% match shall be from Basin Account funds (cash only). A minimum of 10% match shall be provided by the applicant or 3rd party (cash, in-kind, or combination). The remaining 30% of the required match may be provided from any other source (Basin, applicant, or 3rd party) and shall be accompanied by a **letter of commitment.** Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Contributing Entity	Amount and Form of Match (note cash or in-kind):			



Matching Requirements: Statewide Account Requests				
Total Match	\$			
If you requested a Waiver to the Statewide Account matching, indicate % you wish waived. (Max 50% reduction of requirement).				

Related Studies

Please provide a list of any related studies, including if the water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Gunnison River Riparian Assessment

Upper Gunnison Watershed Assessment and Stream Management Plan

Merrick Engineering analysis Marshall No. 2

	Previous CWCB G	irants			
Grant Name	Agreement numbe	r Amount	Start Date	e End date	
Irrigators in Kremmling	CTGG1 2017-0667	\$465,400	11/29/2016	9/30/2018	
Redburn Ranch Diversion Dam	CTGG1 2015-2791	\$148,500 1/27/2015		6/1/2018	
San Miguel River Stream					
Management Plan Pilot	POGG1 2016-0800	\$96,413	3/22/2016	6/1/2018	
Ware Hinds Fish Bypass	POGG1 2017-0749	\$63,500	2/14/2017	12/31/2018	
Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass	POGG1 2016-0900	\$30,000	5/18/2016	1/31/2017	
W-Mountain Ranch Restoration	POGG1 2016-0610	\$15,000	1/8/2015	5/31/2017	
Kerber Creek Restoration	POGG1 2015-0286	\$30,000	6/10/2015	10/31/2016	
River Ranch Irrigation Diversion	CTGG1 2015-3313	\$113,000	6/9/2015	5/31/2016	
South Arkansas River Restoration	POGG1 2015-0175	\$10,000 11/14/2014		10/31/2016	
Upper Ohio Creek Flow					
Restoration	POGG1 2015-0161	\$6,000 10/10/20		12/31/2014	
Tomichi Water					
Conservation	<u>c</u>	\$109,500			
Program POGG1 2018-		(50%) 5/4/2018		5/4/2018	
-	A,202000002130	. ,	15/2019	7/31/2021	



Previous CWCB Grants						
Diversion Gate Replacement and Water Management Planning Project						
Wilbur Ditch Improvement	POGG1,PDAA,201900002930	\$20,500	6/3/2019	6/30/2020		
	Tax Payer Bill of F	Rights				
The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.						
None						



Colorado Water Conservation Board		
Water Supply Reserve Fund		
Exhibit A - Statement of Work		
3/30/2020		
Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Project		
Trout Unlimited		
Funding Source: WSRF – Gunnison Basin Funds		

Water Activity Overview: (Please provide brief description of the proposed water activity (no more than 200 words). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRF funding will be used for.

This project is a collaborate effort between Trout Unlimited, Gunnison Angling Society, the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, and several private landowner partners to reconstruct upgrade four separate diversion structures in the Upper Gunnison Basin.

Two of the diversions, Buckey Lehman Ditch and Hyzer Ditch, are located on Ohio Creek, a tributary to the Gunnison River. Two diversions, the Marshall No. 2, and Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Ditch are located on the mainstem Gunnison, approximately 6 miles north of the town of Gunnison.

These diversions have similar characteristics. The headgates are antiquated and difficult to operate, the dams require regular maintenance that contribute to channel erosion during high flow periods and three of the four do not effectively divert water rights during low flow periods. The new structures will be constructed to eliminate the need for regular in-channel disturbance and allow access to decreed water rights at a range of flow levels. Structure design will also provide quality aquatic habitat and refuge for trout.

These four diversions are used to divert water to over 1000 acres of grass pasture and hay meadow in the Gunnison Basin. A total of 16 individual water right owners will benefit from this project. Each site will include localized riparian and habitat restoration that will total approximately 1000 feet.

Objectives: (List the objectives of the project)

Objectives for this project include:

- Improve access and control of pre-compact water rights.
- Reduce in channel disturbance caused by diversion maintenance.
- Reduce risk of diversion failure during high flow periods.
- Improve channel stability and instream habitat.
- Reduce entrainment of Kokanee fry doing release.



Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:

Task 1 - Marshall No. 2 Diversion Improvement

Description of Task:

This task will involve moving the Marshall No. 2 point of diversion upstream 600 feet, constructing a headgate at the new point of diversion, and constructing a ditch to convey water from the new headgate to the existing ditch. This task also involves restoring a section of ditch near the Marshall No. 2 that was eroded during the spring of 2019.

The Marshall No. 2 is used to irrigate 300 acres of grass meadow owned by the Cranor Ranch and Slo Down Ranch. These ranches are managed for agricultural production and provide open space and wildlife habitat in the upper Gunnison Valley. The Marshall No. 2 ditch has two water rights, one decreed for 11.14 CFS adjudicated in 1906, and one decreed for 31.55 CFS adjudicated in 1941. The diversion is located on the Gunnison River approximately 6 miles north of the city of Gunnison on a section of the Gunnison that is popular for rafting, kayaking, and float fishermen.

Due to its positioning on the inside bend of the river, this diversion has been historically difficult to get water during low flow periods as cobble and sediment regularly deposit near the ditch inlet. In 2018, owners constructed a cross vane to direct water to the ditch inlet at extremely low flow periods. Unfortunately, this vane contributed to erosion on the opposing bank in the spring of 2019. The Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District commissioned Merrick Engineering to evaluate the existing diversion positioning and propose alternatives to address issues. Marshall No. 2 owners have selected the alternative that involves moving the ditch inlet upstream to a location that will not have deposition and maintenance issues owners historically dealt with. This new location sits 2 feet higher in elevation than the existing ditch inlet thereby reducing the need for a channel wide cross vane.

Method/Procedure:

The new point of diversion location has been selected. Ditch alignment to most efficiently convey water from the new point of diversion location and the existing ditch will be, surveyed, flagged and cleared of trees and other debris. The landowner who owns the property which the ditch runs through is willing to provide labor and equipment to assist in clearing the new ditch line.

Water right owners will select an excavation contractor to remove the old headgate, sluice gate, and rock vane from the existing diversion location. This area will be regraded and revegetated. The selected contractor will also dig the new ditch to connect the existing ditch to the new point of diversion. The ditch will be sufficiently in-land and the river side embankment will be graded and revegetated to withstand flood events.

A new concrete ditch headgate will be designed and a contractor will be hired to pour the structure. Rock rip-rap will be used to prevent erosion near the headgate structure and eliminate the risk of wash out. Rather than a full cross vane to raise the elevation of the river, a small jetty has been discussed to direct adequate water into the ditch. Rock used from the cross vane at the old point of diversion will be transported up stream and used to armor the headgate and segments of ditch.

A simple point of diversion change application will not be needed as the new location will is less than 500 feet from the decreed point of diversion.

The work on the Marshall No. 2 is planned for late summer or fall of 2020.

DNR	COLORADO
co	Colorado Water Conservation Board
	Department of Natural Resources

Tasks

Funding from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Water Plan Grants has been requested to
assist with the Marshall No. 2 improvements.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

- Design of new concrete ditch headgate.
- Competed Marshall No. 2 diversion that operated effectively during high and low flow periods.

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

- Design of new ditch headgate
- Photos and summary report documenting construction and completion of the Marshall No. 2 headgate and new ditch alignment.

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:

Task 2 - Buckey Lehman Diversion Improvement

Description of Task:

This task will involve upgrading the existing Buckey Lehman diversion from a cobble push-up dam to a permanent rock cross-vane structure. This task will also include replacing the existing headgate with a more operable headgate and installing a sluice gate to better control fine sediment near the ditch inlet.

The Buckey Lehman ditch diverts water from Ohio Creek and is used to irrigate grass meadow on Eagle Ridge Ranch (ERR). The ditch has three decreed water rights totaling 15.5 CFS; 3.125 CFS adjudicated in 1906, 9.37 adjudicated in 1941, and 3.0 CFS adjudicated in 1994.

Eagle Ridge Ranch is a 4900-acre ranch located 15 miles north of the town of Gunnison. Fourteen private homeowners work cooperatively through a Board of Directors and a ranch manager to manage the ranch. Hay and livestock production on the ranch is leased to a private agricultural producer. Environmental conservation efforts on the ranch encompass wildlife habitat conservation, along with maintaining good water quality for Ohio Creek.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has committed \$6,500 in



Tasks

cash to assist with the construction of this diversion.

Eagle Ridge Ranch has been an active participant in the Upper Gunnison Watershed Management Planning effort. This project was developed as a result of that effort.

Method/Procedure:

Creekside Angling and Environmental has been contracted to assist ERR in designing the structure and will construct the new diversion. Eagle Ridge Ranch will provide labor with all facets of the project. Trout Unlimited has also committed to assisting with design, project coordination, and grant reporting for this project.

The newly constructed diversion will be a permanent rock weir structure constructed with 2-4 foot boulders. The diversion will be a channel wide cross vane shaped as a downstream widening arch. The cross vane will be designed to raise water surface elevation and prevent over toping flows from eroding or out flanking the structure. In cross section, the arch will be lower in the center of the channel to concentrate low flows, allow fish passage, and prevent deposition directly upstream of the structure. This elevation will be equivalent to the minimum elevation necessary to divert water rights into the ditch.

Rock material and the headgate assembly will be purchased and hauled to the project site in the fall of 2020. At that time, an excavator will be onsite to begin construction. A coffer dam will be constructed to divert the channel to the west bank and dewater the headgate area and allow construction of the rock vane. The cross-vane will be constructed upon footer rocks to prevent scour and settling. Water will be directed back to the east side of the channel and work will commence on the west side. The vane will be keyed into each bank and rip-rap will be used near the ditch inlet to prevent out flanking. A second vane may be necessary as grade control if the drop on the first vane is greater and 12 inches.

Construction is will be complete by December 1, 2020.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

 Reconstructed diversion that functions without regular channel disturbance at a range of flow levels.

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

• Photos and summary report documenting construction and completion cross vane and headgate.



Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:

Task 3 – Hyzer Ditch Diversion Improvement

Description of Task:

This task will involve reconstructing the Hyzer Ditch diversion with a permanent rock vane structure. The Hyzer Ditch diverts water from Ohio Creek and is used to irrigate grass meadow on Horse Meadows subdivision and lower Castle Mountain. The ditch has four decreed water rights totaling 14.166 CFS; .4 CFS and 3.871 CFS adjudicated in 1906 (separate appropriation dates), .9 CFS adjudicated in 1941, and 8.995 CFS adjudicated in 1941.

The Horse meadow subdivision consists of 10 owners with common land that is leased for hay and livestock production. Other property owners outside of Horse Meadows have smaller shares in the ditch on adjacent land.

The Hyzer Ditch diversion has several issues that limit access to water rights. Water users have repeatedly used tarps and heavy equipment to build up the diversion but aggregation upstream of the diversion has forced flows to outflank the constructed dams. Most recently, the "wing" leading to the headgate has washed out and the diversion no longer functions. Regular maintenance has become tiresome for water right owners and irritating to the property owner where the diversion is located.

Several of the landowners have been active participants in the Upper Gunnison Watershed Management Planning effort. This project was developed as a result of the effort.

Method/Procedure:

Trout Unlimited will work with the water right owners to survey and finalize an appropriate cross vane design for the site. A consultant will be hired to draw the design specifications so it can be shared with all project participants. TU has also committed to assisting project coordination and grant reporting for this project.

The design currently conceptualized is a rock cross-vane that ties into the existing ditch wing. The newly constructed vane will be constructed in two layers of 2-4 foot boulders. The lower layer will act as a footer to support the upper layer and reduce scour from undermining the structure. In cross section, the vane will be lower in the center of the channel to concentrate low flows, allow fish passage, and prevent deposition directly upstream of the structure. This elevation will be keyed into each bank and sloped downward at less than 1.5% grade toward the center of the channel. This will help dissipate high flow energy and prevent water from out flanking the structure.

A qualified contractor will be selected to construct the vane. Rock material will be purchased and hauled to the project site after August 2020. At that time an excavator will be onsite to begin construction. A coffer dam will be necessary to divert water around the work area during construction. A second vane is planned as grade control downstream of the main diversion vane.

Construction is scheduled for completion by December 1, 2020.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Completed diversion that functions well for water right owners at a range of water levels, improves channel stability, and provides low water refuge for trout.



COLORADO Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

Last Update: January 9, 2018

Tasks

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

- Photos and summary report documenting construction and completion cross vane and headgate.
- Design of new diversion.

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:

Task 4: Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Association Ditch Diversion Improvement

Description of Task:

This project is a collaborative effort between the owners of the Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Association (GVTA) Ditch, and Trout Unlimited, to replace the GVTA Ditch headgate, stabilize a section of eroded ditch bank near the headgate, and install an irrigation return/sluice gate at the point of diversion.

The GVTA Ditch delivers irrigation water from the Gunnison River to over 600 acres of grass hay meadow and pasture in the Gunnison and Tomichi Valleys. This ditch carries water from the point of diversion, 5 miles north of Gunnison near County Road 10, to the Gunnison Cemetery 1 mile east of Gunnison. In route, water is delivered to 5 ditch owners and irrigation returns from land served east of Gunnison, in the Tomichi Valley, bolster flows in lower Tomichi Creek near the Tomichi Creek State Wildlife Area. There are eight absolute water rights decreed for the GTVA Ditch totaling 61.125 cfs. Three of these rights are decreed for a total 17.125 CFS with adjudication dates from 1906. The remaining rights decreed for a total of 44 CFS have adjudicated dates ranging from 1921 to 2006.

The proposed improvements to the GVTA Ditch will promote the use of well-established Gunnison Valley water rights and will allow for better control of irrigation water at the point of diversion.

Method/Procedure:

KR welding and fabrication has developed a cost estimate, design for the proposed improvements, and will be selected to complete the work. The headgate will be retrofitted with two new metal power up/down gate inserts. Fabrication will be completed off site but some modification to the existing structure will be necessary. Existing concrete buttresses supporting the metal gates on the ditch headgate are good shape and will not be disturbed.

A short concrete wall will be constructed to reinforce the section of ditch bank that is eroding.

The sluice structure will be a concrete apron that ties into the existing headgate. Two buttress walls will sit on the apron and support a small walkway and an 8-foot adjustable gate. The gate that will be raised with two power-down wheels commonly used for headgate operation. The apron elevation will be set to match the elevation of the ditch inlet. Cost estimate and details on construction are included as an attachment to this application.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Completed headgate and sluice/return gate.



Tasks

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)

• Photos and summary report documenting construction and completion cross vane and headgate.

Tasks

Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format:

Task 5: Grant Administration

Description of Task:

This task will involve contracting, project management, payments to contactors, reimbursement invoices to CWCB, and accounting of project expenses. No WSRF funds will be used for this task.

Method/Procedure:

15% of project equipment and contracted expenses is included in the budget.

Grantee Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee expects from this task)

Project oversight, reporting and management of tasks

CWCB Deliverable: (Describe the deliverable the grantee will provide CWCB documenting the completion of this task)



Tasks

Appropriate contracting, reporting and project completion.

Budget and Schedule

Exhibit B - Budget and Schedule: This Statement of Work shall be accompanied by a combined <u>Budget</u> and <u>Schedule</u> that reflects the Tasks identified in the Statement of Work and shall be submitted to CWCB in <u>excel format</u>. A separate <u>excel formatted</u> Budget is required for engineering costs to include rate and unit costs.

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports: The grantee shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of issuance of a purchase order, or the execution of a contract. The progress report shall describe the status of the tasks identified in the statement of work, including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues. The CWCB may withhold reimbursement until satisfactory progress reports have been submitted.

Final Report: At completion of the project, the grantee shall provide the CWCB a Final Report on the grantee's letterhead that:

- Summarizes the project and how the project was completed.
- Describes any obstacles encountered, and how these obstacles were overcome.
- Confirms that all matching commitments have been fulfilled.
- Includes photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Payments

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures, must include invoices for all work completed and must be on grantee's letterhead. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by task, an estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire Project in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues, and proposed or implemented corrective actions.

The CWCB will pay the last 10% of the <u>entire</u> water activity budget when the Final Report is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the Final Report has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the water activity and purchase order or contract will be closed without any further payment. Any entity that fails to complete a satisfactory Final Report and submit to CWCB within 90 days of the expiration of a purchase order or contract may be denied consideration for future funding of any type from CWCB.

Performance Requirements

Performance measures for this contract shall include the following:

(a) Performance standards and evaluation: Grantee will produce detailed deliverables for each task as specified. Grantee shall maintain receipts for all project expenses and documentation of the minimum inkind contributions (if applicable) per the budget in Exhibit B. Per Grant Guidelines, the CWCB will pay out the last 10% of the budget when the final deliverable is completed to the satisfaction of CWCB staff. Once the final deliverable has been accepted, and final payment has been issued, the purchase order or grant will be closed without any further payment.

(b) Accountability: Per the Grant Guidelines full documentation of project progress must be submitted with each invoice for reimbursement. Grantee must confirm that all grant conditions have been complied with on each invoice. In addition, per the Grant Guidelines, Progress Reports must be submitted at least once every 6 months. A Final Report must be submitted and approved before final project payment.



Reporting Requirements

(c) Monitoring Requirements: Grantee is responsible for ongoing monitoring of project progress per Exhibit A. Progress shall be detailed in each invoice and in each Progress Report, as detailed above. Additional inspections or field consultations will be arranged as may be necessary.
(d) Noncompliance Resolution: Payment will be withheld if grantee is not current on all grant conditions. Flagrant disregard for grant conditions will result in a stop work order and cancellation of the Grant Agreement.

Last Update: December 17, 2019



COLORADO Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Supply Reserve Fund

EXHIBIT B - BUDGET AND SCHEDULE - Direct & Indirect (Administrative) Costs

Prepared Date:3/30/2020

Name of Applicant:Trout Unlimited

Name of Water Project : Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Project

Project Start Date: 8/1/2020

Project End Date: 8/1/2023

Task No.	Task Description	Task Start Date	Task End Date	-	<u>tching Funds</u> h & in-kind) ⁽³⁾	CWCB Water Plan Grants	<u>WSRF Funds</u> (Basin & Statewide		Total
							combined) ⁽³⁾		
1	Marshall No. 2 Diversion Improvement	8/1/2020	8/1/2023	\$	20,925.00	\$ 26,500.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$	57,425.00
2	Buckey Lehman Diversion Improvement	8/1/2020	8/1/2023	\$	14,800.00	\$ 9,990.00	\$	\$	24,790.00
3	Hyzer Ditch Diversion Improvement	8/1/2020	8/1/2023	\$	11,300.00	\$ 9,450.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$	21,750.00
4	Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Assoc. Ditch Diversion Improvement	8/1/2020	8/1/2023	\$	35,550.00	\$-	\$ 8,000.00	\$	43,550.00
5	Grant Adminstation	8/1/2020	8/1/2023	\$	-	\$ 6,891.00	\$-	\$	6,891.00
									\$C
									\$C
	·		Total		\$82,575	\$52,831	\$19,000)	\$154,406
(1) The single t	ask that include costs for Grant Administration must provid	e a labor breakdown (see Indire	ect Costs tab below) wh	ere the	total WSRF Gran	t contribution towards th	at task does not exe	ceed 15	% of the total WSRF
(2) Round value	es up to the nearest hundred dollars.								
 Additional do 	ocumentation providing a Detailed/Itemized Budget may be	required for contracting. Appli	cants are encouraged to	o coord	inate with the CW	/CB Project Manager to c	letermine specifics.		
The CWCB will	pay the last 10% of the entire water activity budget when t	he Final Report is completed to	the satisfaction of the 0	CWCB s	taff project mana	ger. Once the Final Repo	ort has been accepte	ed, the f	inal payment has

• Additionally, the applicant shall provide a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of contract execution

UG Multiple Diversions Regional Map





Marshall N. 2 during spring 2019



Marshall No. 2





Engineering | Architecture | Design-Build | Surveying | Planning | GeoSpatial Solutions

Employee Owned



Q:\Denver_North\Projects\2394-00 Gunnsion County Diversions 8 2019\CORRESPONDENCE\Letters and Memos\Marshall Tech Memo #1 rem1.docx

Buckey Lehman Ditch



February 1, 2020

1:18,056

Buckey Lehman Ditch

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Proposed Diversion Improvements Eagle Ridge Ranch 2020



- New Headgate Structure
- 🍰 Property Line
- Proposed Rip-Rap

Buckey Lehman Ditch

Ohio Creek

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Google Earth

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Hyzer Ditch Regional



February 1, 2020

1:18,056

Hyzer Existing Condition



Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Ditch



February 28, 2020

Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Ditch Irrigated Area



February 28, 2020

Cranor Inc. 3600 County Rd. 10 Gunnison, CO 81230 970-209-1218 June 9, 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board Colorado Water Plan Grants Agricultural Category

RE: Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Project

Dear Mr. Godbout,

Cranor Inc., a family Corporation owns a major share in the Marshall No. 2 ditch.

The Marshell No. 2 Ditch diversion has historically been difficult to operate and does not effectively divert water when the Gunnison River flows less than 700 cfs without the use of tarps or pushing up cobble. The structure requires regular maintenance which has led to erosion near the existing dam and ditch inlet.

During the last 18 months the owners of the Marshell No. 2 ditch have evaluated strategies to upgrade the diversion in a way that will reduce labor, reduce channel erosion near the site, eliminate the need for in-channel disturbance with heavy equipment, improve river aesthetics, and floating on this segment of the Gunnison River.

The opportunity to work with Trout Unlimited and utilize CWCB grant funding will enable water right owners to construct a diversion that will be functional for irrigation, recreational, and ecological needs during low flow and flood flow periods.

Cranor Inc. encourages the Colorado Water Conservation Board to grant Trout Unlimited funds requested for the Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Project.

Cranor Inc is offering to provide wheeled backhoe with operator as needed, concrete placement expertise and up to \$6000 cash for other work not done by us.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these projects.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Cranor, Pres.

Cranor Inc.



Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite B • Gunnison, Colorado 81230 (970) 641-6065 • www.ugrwcd.org

March 23, 2020

Trout Unlimited Jesse Kruthaupt 604 Elsa Court Gunnison, CO 81230

Re: Upper Gunnison Multiple Diversion Project

Dear Jesse,

This letter is to acknowledge the approval of your grant request submitted to the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (UGRWCD). You have been approved for a total of \$11,800 which includes \$6,000 from the UGRWCD Grant Program and \$5,800 from the Upper Gunnison Watershed Management Planning Program monies.

The program received grant requests for over \$340,000 for a wide range of well-qualified proposals, with requests ranging from \$3,000 to \$50,000. The total of the grant requests was well over the \$200,000 amount appropriated for 2020.

The release of these grant funds is subject to entering into a Funding Agreement which must be signed by both the UGRWCD and the awarded party. Please contact our office at 970-641-6065 to proceed with the Funding Agreement.

Congratulations,

Sonja Chavez

Sonja Chavez General Manager

Buckey Lehman Diversion

Proposed Improvements

Eagle Ridge Ranch

January 23, 2020

The Buckey Lehman Ditch is right #83 on Ohio Creek with 12.5 CFS decreed to Eagle Ridge Ranch HOA (ERR). The ditch is used to supply water to the Eagle Ridge Ranch fishing pond and subsequently can be utilized for irrigation or directed back to Ohio Creek. In the Fall of 2019 ERR, in conjunction with Partners for Fish and Wildlife (FWS) and Upper Gunnison River Water Conservation District, completed an irrigation improvement project that would allow irrigators to utilize Buckey Lehman Ditch water, as well as tailwater from the Teachout Ditch, much more efficiently while also augmenting shallow water wetland habitat. The proposed project will increase this water use efficiency and further improve the wetland wildlife habitat.

Historically the Buckey Lehman Diversion has required annual maintenance involving the mechanical 'push-up' of material to deliver water to the headgate structure. This activity is time consuming and disturbs the creek bed which effects water and habitat quality on Ohio Creek. The design calls for substantial rip-rap structures that can withstand high water flow events in the creek. This permanent rock structure will efficiently deliver irrigation water to a new headgate structure which will include a discharge gate back to the creek. The discharge gate will further improve the effectiveness and maintenance requirements of the diversion allowing for quick adjustments of water delivered to the ditch and cleaning of debris and sediment from the point of diversion.

Currently the proposed design calls for a budget as follows:

- \$10,000.00 Rip-Rap Material and Hauling
- \$9,500.00 Excavation and Mobilization
- \$3,500.00 Headgate Structure

Total: \$23,000

Funding for the project will be structured as a cost share agreement between Eagle Ridge Ranch HOA, Partners for Fish and Wildlife and Colorado Water Conservation Board through a grant application submitted by Trout Unlimited. Proposed funding breakdown is as follows:

-	\$6,500.00	Eagle Ridge Ranch HOA
-	\$6,500.00	Partners for Fish and Wildlife
-	\$10,000.00	CWCB

Eagle Ridge Ranch believes this project will greatly improve the irrigation efficiency of the ranch while providing a final step to the previously completed projects. The advantages of the project will be numerous and will not only benefit ERR irrigators but also downstream stakeholders as well as migratory and local wildlife. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerning regarding this proposal.

Best Regards, Travis Brooks Ranch Manager, Eagle Ridge Ranch (970)901-0430



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE 134 Union Blvd Lakewood, Colorado 80228



In Reply Refer to: FWS/IR05/IR07

29 January 2020

Colorado Water Conservation Board 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718 Denver, CO 80203

Subject: Water Plan Grant Application for Eagle Ridge Ranch – Buckey Lehman Diversion Project Proposal

Dear Water Plan Grant Review Committee:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Partners for Fish and Wildlife program (CO PFW) strongly supports the Eagle Ridge Ranch – Buckey Lehman Diversion Project Proposal. CO PFW is actively working in partnership with Eagle Ridge Ranch by providing both technical and financial assistance to improve the Ranch's flood irrigation infrastructure. During 2019, CO PFW assisted Eagle Ridge Ranch in completing an irrigation improvement project that utilizes Buckey Lehman Ditch water and Teachout Ditch tailwater. The project resulted in more efficient use of irrigation water while also enhancing working wet meadows. The Buckey Lehman Diversion project proposal will significantly improve the "push-up" dam currently used to deliver Buckey Lehman Ditch water, while reducing damage to the streambed, reducing significant annual maintenance, increasing water use efficiency, bolstering prior flood irrigation infrastructure improvements, as well as supporting wildlife habitat.

CO PFW recognizes the complexity and critical importance that flood irrigation practices have on keeping private ranch lands viable and benefits to a myriad of wildlife species. CO PFW expresses full support towards the success of this project and has committed \$6,500 of matching funds, in anticipation of receiving grant funding from the Colorado Water Conservation Board – Water Plan Grant. Thank you for considering CO PFW's support and this project. If you have any questions regarding the CO PFW program or details of this project, please contact Brandon Miller, CO PFW Private Lands Biologist, 307 N. Main St., Suite 2C, Gunnison, CO 81230; 970-615-0119; or brandon miller@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Dominic Barrett State Coordinator

> INTERIOR REGION 7 UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

June 15, 2020

Attn: Craig Godbout Colorado Water Conservation Board Water Supply Reserve Fund Gunnison Basin

RE: Hyzer Ditch Diversion Improvement

Dear Mr. Godbout,

I am a homeowner in Horse Meadows subdivision. During the last several months we have spear headed an effort to address issues related to the Hyzer Ditch diversion. This effort has included HOA meetings and coordination with all the owners of the Hyzer ditch. Trout Unlimited's assistance in seeking funding for this project is the reason it is moving forward.

We have discussed alternatives to upgrade the diversion in a way that will reduce neighbor contention, reduce labor, eliminate the need for in-channel disturbance with heavy equipment, and improve habitat on this segment of Ohio Creek.

If the CWCB funding is awarded, the Horse Meadow subdivision will contribute \$3000 cash toward the diversion repair. Also, we are in the process of replacing the Hyzer ditch waste gate at a cost of \$700. Total contributions from Horse Meadows Subdivision is \$3000 cash and \$700 of in-kind labor.

I encourage the Colorado Water Conservation Board to grant Trout Unlimited funds requested for is project. I am confident this project will result in four functional diversions supporting irrigation and ecological needs during low flow and high flood flow periods

Thank you for taking the time to consider these projects.

Sincerely,

Ere Hour

Eric Kowal, Horse Meadows HOA Vice President 39 Sydney Court Horse Meadows subdivision Gunnison, CO 81230 970-209-7045



Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

210 West Spencer Avenue, Suite B • Gunnison, Colorado 81230 (970) 641-6065 • www.ugrwcd.org

March 23, 2020

Steve Guerrieri 1666 Highway 135 Gunnison, CO 81230

Re: Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Ditch Head Gate Modernization

Dear Steve,

This letter is to acknowledge the approval of your grant request submitted to the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (UGRWCD). You have been approved for **\$21,775** in UGRWCD District Grant monies for the above referenced project.

The program received grant requests for over \$340,000 for a wide range of well-qualified proposals, with requests ranging from \$3,000 to \$50,000. The total of the grant requests was well over the \$200,000 amount appropriated for 2020.

The release of these grant funds is subject to entering into a Funding Agreement which must be signed by both the UGRWCD and the awarded party. Please contact our office at 970-641-6065 to proceed with the Funding Agreement.

Congratulations,

Sonja Chaver

Sonja Chavez General Manager



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

COLORADO PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE 134 UNION BLVD.; SUITE 400C LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80228 303-236-4341

Colorado Water Conservation Board ATTN: Craig Godbout 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718 Denver, CO 80203

Subject: Water Supply Reserve Fund Grant: Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Ditch Head-Gate Modernization Project

Dear Mr. Godbout,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Partners for Fish and Wildlife (CO PFW) program strongly supports the Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Ditch Head-Gate Modernization Project. CO PFW is actively working in partnership with the owners of the Gunnison and Tomichi Valley Association (GVTA) Ditch, Trout Unlimited, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to replace the GVTA Ditch headgate, stabilize a section of eroded ditch bank near the headgate, and install an irrigation return/sluice gate at the point of diversion. These improvements will greatly reduce maintenance and improve the operator's ability to better manage water at high and low flow levels. CO PFW is committed to providing both technical assistance and committing financial assistance in order to make improvements to flood irrigation infrastructure. CO PFW also recognizes the complexity and critical importance that flood irrigation practices have on keeping private ranch lands viable, as well as benefits to a myriad of wildlife species.

CO PFW expresses full support towards the success of this project and has secured \$7,500.00 in matching funds. Thank you for considering CO PFW's support and this project. If you have any questions regarding the CO PFW program and/or details of this project, please contact Brandon Miller, CO PFW Private Lands Biologist, 307 N. Main St., Suite 2C, Gunnison, CO 81230; 970-615-0119; or brandon_miller@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Dominic Barrett State Coordinator

